

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4933

To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to establish a competitive grant program to enable area agencies on aging and local nutrition service providers to purchase, customize, or repair vehicles with hot and cold food storage for delivering meals to older individuals through the Congregate Nutrition Program or the Home-Delivered Nutrition Program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 3, 2021

Mr. VELA (for himself and Mr. KATKO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to establish a competitive grant program to enable area agencies on aging and local nutrition service providers to purchase, customize, or repair vehicles with hot and cold food storage for delivering meals to older individuals through the Congregate Nutrition Program or the Home-Delivered Nutrition Program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Helping Our Most El-  
5 derly Secure Meals Act” or the “HOME Meals Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS FOR VEHICLES WITH HOT AND COLD FOOD**  
2 **STORAGE FOR MEAL DELIVERY TO OLDER IN-**  
3 **DIVIDUALS.**

4 Subpart 3 of part C of title III of the Older Ameri-  
5 cans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3030g–21 et seq.) is amend-  
6 ed by adding at the end the following:

7 **“SEC. 340. GRANTS FOR VEHICLES WITH HOT AND COLD**  
8 **FOOD STORAGE FOR MEAL DELIVERY.**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary shall  
10 award grants in accordance with subsection (c) on a com-  
11 petitive basis to States receiving a grant under section 331  
12 or 336 to enable such States to provide direct funds to  
13 area agencies on aging and local nutrition service pro-  
14 viders to purchase, customize, or repair vehicles meeting  
15 the requirement under subsection (b) to be used in deliv-  
16 ering meals to older individuals through a nutrition  
17 project supported or eligible for support under either such  
18 section.

19 “(b) VEHICLE REQUIREMENT.—The requirement  
20 under this subsection is that the vehicle has the capability  
21 to safely store hot food and cold food, as determined by  
22 the Assistant Secretary, while delivering meals.

23 “(c) APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS.—

24 “(1) APPLICATIONS.—

25 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A State receiving a  
26 grant under section 331 or 336 that seeks a

1 grant under this section shall submit an appli-  
2 cation to the Assistant Secretary at such time,  
3 in such manner, and containing such informa-  
4 tion as the Assistant Secretary may reasonably  
5 require, including the demonstrations described  
6 in subparagraph (B).

7 “(B) DEMONSTRATIONS.—An application  
8 under this paragraph shall contain a dem-  
9 onstration—

10 “(i) of how the State submitting the  
11 application will use the grant to enable nu-  
12 trition projects supported or eligible for  
13 support under section 331 or 336 to en-  
14 hance the delivery of services to older indi-  
15 viduals with greatest economic need and  
16 older individuals with greatest social need;  
17 and

18 “(ii) that each such nutrition project  
19 has a program, in effect within the State  
20 on the date on which the State submits the  
21 application, to use vehicles meeting the re-  
22 quirement under subsection (b) to provide  
23 nutrition services supported or eligible for  
24 support under section 331 or 336.

1           “(2) SELECTION.—The Assistant Secretary, in  
2           selecting States meeting the requirements under  
3           paragraph (1) to receive a grant under this section,  
4           shall give preference to—

5                   “(A) States with a high percentage of indi-  
6                   viduals who are 60 years of age or older;

7                   “(B) States with a high rate of individuals  
8                   at or below the poverty line; and

9                   “(C) States with a high level of demand or  
10                  unmet need for nutrition services provided by  
11                  area agencies on aging or local nutrition service  
12                  providers.

13           “(d) GRANT AMOUNT.—A grant awarded under this  
14           section shall be for an amount that is equal to or less than  
15           \$3,000,000.

16           “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
17           is authorized to be appropriated \$60,000,000 for each of  
18           fiscal years 2022 through 2026 to carry out this section.”.

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